

Dear Members of the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board:

We are writing to follow up on our comments made at the July 14, 2016 Planning Board meeting regarding the 40B application for 420 Harvard Street. Specifically, we are concerned about the adverse impact this project will have for both pedestrian safety and emergency vehicle response times. We live in a single-family house at the corner of Centre and Fuller Streets and observe first hand the steady flow of pedestrian traffic and the daily trips that emergency vehicles make up and down our neighborhood streets.

A large percentage of senior citizens living in Brookline reside at 100 and 112 Centre Street. These buildings are across from our home. The buildings provide 498 housing units for seniors in Brookline. This is a fragile population that moves slowly and mostly with the help of canes, walkers and wheel chairs. Their primary route to Harvard Street each day from their residences is on foot, walking, with assistance, one block to the end of Centre Street and turning right onto Fuller Street which brings them to Harvard. The proposed project at 420 Harvard would entail a number of additional vehicles traveling along Centre and Fuller Streets and would adversely affect the safety of these individuals. We would urge the Board to uphold all of the pedestrian, set back, and square footage requirements to ensure the safety of the many, vulnerable seniors in our neighborhood. We also ask the Board to look carefully at the impact that a garage and retail space with additional cars and additional parking would have on this population.

In addition, emergency vehicles always access 100 and 112 Centre Street by traveling from Harvard and Fuller Streets and turning left onto Centre Street. They choose this route because it is the quickest access they have to these buildings. These emergency vehicles would be severely impacted by a line of cars waiting to exit and enter the proposed garage and/or outdoor parking being planned for 420 Harvard project. Re-routing these emergency vehicles would mean longer travel and response times.

We hope that the Board will study carefully the elderly pedestrian patterns and the emergency vehicle requirements when reviewing and responding to the 420 Harvard Street 40B application. Thank you.

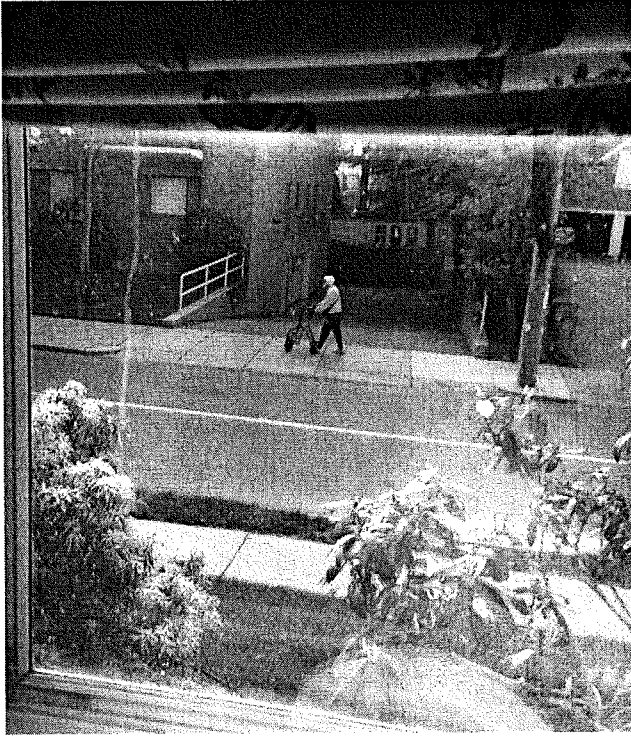
Sincerely,

Ernest and Christine Adams
129 Centre Street
Brookline
617-566-5242

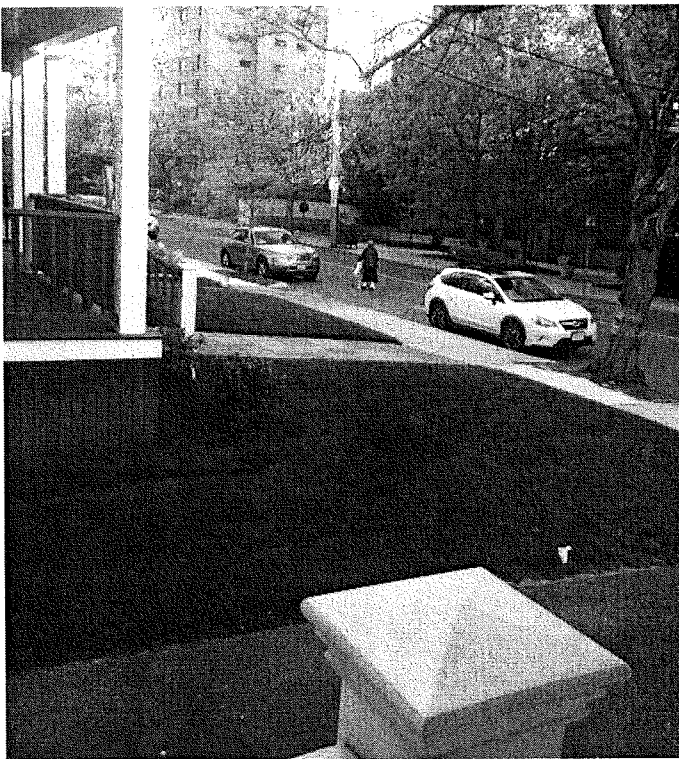


On Fuller toward Harvard. On same side of Fuller as proposed 420.





Walking on Fuller away from Harvard toward Centre. Same side as proposed 420.



Crossing Centre just past the turn from Fuller.



Walking on Fuller, almost to Harvard.



On Fuller walking toward Harvard. That is a walker that has storage in the front of it.



This is an image of a day care center's children who walk down Fuller and back every day. This is a photo of them on Fuller walking toward Harvard.